Quiz - Chapter 5 – Political Parties  
  
1. The most important goal of political parties is to   
a. fund political candidates.   
b. gain control of government through popular elections.   
c. organize political rallies.   
d. organize PACs.   
  
2. Political parties are vital to democracy in that they provide a link ​between   
a. the party and the voter.   
b. ​the government and institutions.   
c. ​the candidate and the voter.   
d. ​people and government.   
  
3. Which of the following is not a function of political parties?   
a. ​Nominate and elect their members to local public offices   
b. ​Simplify the issues for the voters   
c. ​Mobilize voters in the electoral process   
d. ​Run the government at whatever level they are active   
  
4. Which of the following is not a distinct characteristic of major American political parties?   
a. Decentralization   
b. Two-party system   
c. Pragmatism   
d. Idealism   
  
7. Since political parties are pragmatic, they will not do which of the following?   
a. ​Develop a campaign strategy that is narrowly focused   
b. ​Establish a clear stand on controversial issues   
c. ​Compromise principles in order to gain public office   
d. ​Establish clear-cut positions on issues where there is broad agreement   
  
8. Why have third parties been unsuccessful at gaining elected office?   
a. ​Major parties make a conscientious effort to absorb them by adopting their issues.   
b. ​Voters will choose third-party candidates, if given an opportunity.   
c. ​Campaign contributors will support third-party candidates, if given an opportunity.   
d. ​Third-party candidates really do not make a real effort to win.   
  
9. In Texas, third-party candidates must receive what percentage of the vote to get on the ballot?   
a. 6   
b. 10   
c. 5   
d. 20   
  
10. If a third-party candidate fails to garner 5 percent of the vote in a previous election to get on the ballot, they must   
a. collect 45,000 signatures from eligible voters.   
b. pay a filing fee.   
c. petition the state to be placed on the ballot.   
d. cast a “write-in” candidate vote.   
  
11. What is the lowest level of party organization?   
a. State   
b. Precinct   
c. District   
d. Neighborhood associations   
  
12. The national Democratic and Republican parties have increased their involvement in the state and local parties through​   
a. ​computer-based mailing lists.   
b. ​direct-mail solicitations.   
c. ​the Internet.   
d. ​all of the above.   
  
13. State and local party organizations are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who exercise considerable discretion on most party matters.   
a. semi-independent actors   
b. independent actors   
c. grassroots actor   
d. individual actors   
  
14. The national party organization provides state parties and candidates with a variety of which services?   
a. Public opinion polling   
b. Computer networking   
c. Direct mailing   
d. All of the above   
  
15. \_\_\_\_\_\_ is the exercise of power in parties by state and local party organizations rather than by national party institutions.   
a. Grassroots   
b. Decentralization   
c. Pragmatism   
d. Single-member district   
  
16. In the late nineteenth century, the Democratic Party was challenged by which third party?   
a. Socialist   
b. Green   
c. Populist   
d. Reform   
  
17. Which ideology tends to view change suspiciously?   
a. Conservatism   
b. Libertarianism   
c. Pragmatism   
d. Idealism   
  
18. The development of the conservative Democratic faction was an outgrowth of all of the following except   
a. New Deal proposals of Franklin D. Roosevelt.   
b. Fail Deal proposals of Harry Truman.   
c. Modern Republicanism of Dwight D. Eisenhower.   
d. Secessionist proposal of Edmund Davis.   
  
19. The success of conservative Democrats competing in the party primary was not because   
a. the power elite contributed resources to like-minded politicians.   
b. they represent interests as oil and gas.   
c. they represent interests as owners and publishers of the state’s daily newspaper.   
d. they represent education interests.   
  
20. Liberals in the Texas Democratic party consist of all of the following groups except   
a. organized labor.   
b. Mexican-American groups.   
c. trial lawyers.   
d. large farmers and ranchers. 